

REMARKS

Applicants have timely submitted an amendment and request for further consideration. Claims 1, 34, 36 and 38 are currently amended. New claims 40-43 are added. Applicants note that no new matter is added. The specification discloses fully water soluble particulate starting material and explains how it is applied in the methods of the present disclosure. For example, the specification at page 2, lines 18-19 provides basis for water soluble particles. More specifically the specification states "Furthermore the particles are readily dispersible or soluble in water, preferably fully soluble in water." See page 2, lines 18-19. (Emphasis added in bold).

Importantly, the specification at page 5 provides:

For many particles it is desirable that the particles are readily dispersible or soluble in water and often it is desired to have fully soluble particles, e.g. enzymes particles and inert particles used as carrier materials or seeds which are often used in products where it is desirable that the product is readily dispersible or soluble in water and often fully soluble. Therefore it may be important that the materials used to produce said particles are readily dispersible or soluble in water and preferably fully soluble in water. We have found that the present invention is a very cost effective way of preparing water soluble inert particles with higher particle strength than compared to ordinary non-pareil seeds.

Importantly, the present application discloses on page 12, lines 20-27:

The amount of liquid added to the high shear treatment is of great importance. If a too high amount of liquid is added to the particulate material, the composition exposed to the high shear process will become too sticky and the particulate material will start agglomerating. In a particular embodiment of the present invention the amount of liquid added to the high shear treatment is not exceeding 20 % by weight, in a more particular embodiment the amount of liquid added to the high shear treatment is not exceeding 15% by weight, in an even more particular embodiment of the present invention the amount of liquid added to the high shear treatment is not exceeding 10 % by weight.

Accordingly, Applicants' specification adequately describes how to carry out the methods wherein the particulate starting materials is fully soluble in water when water or aqueous liquid is the liquid. One of ordinary skill in the art knows and understands that one may contact a constituent characterized as "fully water soluble" such that the constituent does not go entirely and immediately into solution. While some experimentation might be necessary to ensure that the particles do not go entirely into solution using a particulate starting material which is fully water soluble, such

experimentation would not be undue and certainly would not require ingenuity beyond that expected of one of ordinary skill in the art.

Moreover, Examples 1-3 demonstrate water soluble sodium sulfate and an aqueous liquid.

Favorable consideration of the pending claims as amended herein is requested in light of the comments above.

II. New Claims

New claims 40-43 are added. No new matter is added. Should any additional fees be due the USPTO is authorized to charge the deposit account of Novozymes North America, Inc, i.e., Deposit Account No. 50-1701.

III: Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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